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Agenda item 168
Dialogue among civilizations

Afghanistan, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Cyprus, Egypt, Greece, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Lebanon, Lesotho, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic and Turkey: draft resolution

United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, which, *inter alia*, call for collective effort to strengthen friendly relations among nations, remove threats to peace, and promote international cooperation to resolve international issues of economic, social, cultural and humanitarian character,

Recognizing the diverse civilizational achievements of mankind, crystallizing cultural pluralism and creative human diversity,

Aware that positive and mutually beneficial interaction among civilizations has continued throughout human history despite impediments arising from disputes and wars,

Emphasizing the imperative of tolerance in international relations and the significant role of dialogue as a means to reach understanding, remove threats to peace and strengthen interaction and exchange among civilizations,

Noting the designation of 1995 as the United Nations Year for Tolerance,

Reaffirming that civilizational achievements constitute the common heritage of mankind, providing a source of inspiration and progress for humanity at large,

Welcoming the collective endeavour of the international community to enhance understanding through constructive dialogue among civilizations at the threshold of the third millennium,

1. *Expresses* its firm determination to facilitate and promote dialogue between nations;

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2. *Decides* to designate the year 2001 as the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations;

3. *Invites* Governments, the United Nations system, including the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other relevant international and non-governmental organizations, to plan and implement appropriate cultural, educational and social programmes to promote the concept of dialogue among civilizations, including through organizing conferences and seminars and dissemination of information and scholarly material on the subject, and to inform the Secretary-General of their activities;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present a provisional report on activities in this regard to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, and a final report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.